

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 SCI-06

NIC-01 RSR-01 /133 W

----- 036612

R 260953 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2665

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLASSIFIED BANGKOK 6551

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, ECAFE, TH, CH

SUBJ: THAI- PRC CONTACT AT ECAFE SESSION

1. ON HIS RETURN FROM ECAFE 29 TH SESSION IN TOKYO, THAI DELEGATION LEADER BOONROD BINSON (MINISTER OF STATE UNIVERSITIES) TOLD THE PRESS OF HIS CONTACTS WITH PRC DELEGATION CHIEF AN CHIH- YUAN. BOONROD SAID THAT THE JAPANESE DELEGATE ACTED AS MIDDLEMAN, DETERMINING THAT BOTH THE THAI AND PRC DELEGATES WISHED TO TALK WITH ONE ANOTHER. AN ARRANGED TO PAY A CALL ON BOONROD AT HIS HOTEL (WHICH BOONROD EXPLAINED IN TERMS OF RELATIVE RANK OF THE TWO OFFICIALS). BOONROD SAID THAT THEY TALKED FOR 30 OR 40 MINUTES, PRIMARILY ON THE SETTING UP OF A PERMANENT PRC OFFICE AT ECAFE HEADQUARTERS IN BANGKOK. BOONROD TOLD AN THAT THERE WOULD BE NO OBSTACLES, AND THAT THE THAI ARE READY TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN EVERY WAY. AN TOLD BOONROD THAT THE PRC HAS LIMITED PERSONNEL WITH WHICH TO OPERATE SUCH MISSIONS AND THUS WILL HAVE TO GIVE IT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.

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LATER HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH ECAFE ON THIS MATTER AT SOME FUTURE TIME.

2. BOONROD TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THE PRC WOULD PROBABLY SEND A STUDY TEAM TO BANGKOK FIRST, TO SURVEY THE SITUATION BEFORE SETTING UP AN OFFICE. HE ALSO SAID THE THAI WANT THE PRC, IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SENDING AN ECAFE MISSION IN BANGKOK, FIRST TO CONTACT ECAFE AND THEN THE RTG, BECAUSE " WE HAVE TO CAREFUL AND THOROUGH IN GIVING PERMISSION."

3. BOONROD SAID AN ASKED HIM IF THERE WERE ANY AREAS IN WHICH THAILAND WISHED COOPERATION WITH THE PRC. BOONROD MENTIONED DIRECT SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS (BANGKOK 50 14), TO WHICH AN REPLIED THAT THE PRC WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE A CHANNEL WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE HEADS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO BE IN DIRECT CONTACT. ADDITIONAL POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION MENTIONED BY BOONROD WERE TRADE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, AND PUBLIC HEALTH. BOONROD TOLD NEWSMEN THERE WERE OTHER AREAS, SUCH AS CULTURE AND EDUCATION, IN WHICH THE THAI DO NOT WANT COOPERATION AND WHICH HE DID NOT MENTION TO AN.

4. BOONROD AND AN AGREED THAT FUTURE CONSULTATIONS COULD TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE THAI AND PRC AMBASSADORS IN TOKYO, AND BOONROD EXPLAINED TO REPORTERS THAT THAI- PRC CONTACTS NOW CAN BE MADE IN NEW YORK, WASHINGTON OR TOKYO.
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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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